

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 8008

By Lamberth

A RESOLUTION to commend President and CEO Tommy Whittaker upon his retirement from The Farmers Bank.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those citizens who, through their extraordinary efforts, have distinguished themselves as community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such individual is Tommy Whittaker, president and CEO of The Farmers Bank in Portland, who, after serving with that fine institution for more than four and a half decades, is taking his much-deserved retirement on November 14, 2021; and

WHEREAS, a longtime resident of Sumner County, Mr. Whittaker received his undergraduate degree in business administration from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, in 1974 and his graduate degree from the Graduate School of Banking at Louisiana State University in 1983; and

WHEREAS, Tommy Whittaker came on board with The Farmers Bank on May 1, 1976; his apparent acumen, work ethic, and leadership ability allowed him to rise through the ranks, and in 2005, he accepted his current position as president and chief executive officer; he also serves on the Board of Directors of The Farmers Bank and First Farmers Bancshares, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, highly regarded in his profession, Mr. Whittaker has served as a member of the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Bankers Association and its Government Relations Committee and the American Bankers Association Grassroots Committee; in 2011, he was appointed by Governor Bill Haslam to the University of Tennessee Board of Trustees, which he served well until his appointment ended in 2017; and

WHEREAS, he has also given of his time and talents to serve his community as a member of the Cumberland Electric Membership Corporation Board of Directors, Portland Community Education Foundation Board of Trustees, and Portland Housing Board of Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, he is a past president of the Portland Chamber of Commerce, United Chambers of Sumner County, Leadership Sumner Alumni Association, and Portland Lions Club, of which he has been a member since 1978, and he served as chairman of the Volunteer State Community College Foundation Board and campaign chairman for United Way of Sumner County; and

WHEREAS, during his forty-five-year tenure, Tommy Whittaker has made untold contributions to his beloved community of Portland and this State and has deftly grown and fortified The Farmers Bank, such that this historic institution will continue to serve its community for generations to come; and

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly find it appropriate to pause in their deliberations to acknowledge and applaud Mr. Whittaker for his dedication to the State of Tennessee and its citizens; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and commend President and CEO Tommy Whittaker upon the occasion of his retirement from The Farmers Bank, applaud his dedication to excellence, and extend to him our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.